

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN

SUBJ: UNCTAD: WORKING PARTY ON THE UNCTAD WORK PROGRAMME

REF: GENEVA 2621

SUMMARY: BASED ON DEPT-PREPARED POSITION PAPERS, THE GROUP B SPOKESMAN (ALLEN, U.S.) QUESTIONED THE SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNING PROGRAM REFERENCES AND COMPLIANCE WITH MANDATES, PRIORITIES, AND THE OTHER AREAS DESCRIBED IN REFTEL. THIS SET THE TONE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE PLENARY SESSIONS, INCLUDING THE WELCOMED, BUT LATE, CHALLENGING OF THE SECRETARIAT BY BOTH GROUP DA AND THE G-77 SPOKESMEN. THROUGHOUT THE PLENARY SESSIONS, THE SECRETARIAT WAS SURTHER CALLED UPON TO DEFEND ALL FURTHER REQUESTED INCREASES NOT ALREADY FUNDED BY THE 31ST GA IN TERMS OF REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO RESOLUTIONS. A GROUP B SUMMARY STATEMENT WAS ENTERED INTO THE RECORD, INCLUDING DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FORMAT OF FUTURE PROGRAM BUDGETS, A RECOMMENDATION ON TEHCNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND A PROPOSAL THAT THE CPC REVIEW SPECIFIC

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UNCTAD PROGRAMS. END SUMMARY.

1. GROUP B PREPAREDNESS AND SOLIDARITY PREVAILED, IN THE REVIEW, WITH NINOR SOFTENING OF NORWAY. ITHE SURPRISING, BUT WELCOMEN, SUPPORT OF G-77 IN PARTICULAR, AS WELL AS SOME GROUP D PARTICIPATION, REFLECTED IN PART THE SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THESE

GROUPS IN ADVANCE OF PLENARY SESSIONS.

2. THE 3 MAJOR GROUPS PRESENT (GROUP B, GROUP D AND G-77) PRESENTED WHAT WAS MOST OFTEN A COMMON FRONT IN QUESTIONING THE UNCTAD PROGRAMS. IN MANY SECTORS THE G-77 IN PARTICULAR (THROUGH COORDINATOR COLOMBIA) QUESTIONED COST EFFECTIVENESS AND PRIORITIES OF THE PROGRAMS. PARTICULARLY DRAMATIC WAS THE PRESENTATION OF BANGLADESH (AN OBSERVER) SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED OF THE G-77, CHALLENGING THE SECRETARIAT IN ITS COMMITMENT TO PROGRAM FOR LLDCS. IT WAS WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF INDIA, COLOMBIA, AND ARGENTINA THAT BANGLADESH CASTIGATED THE SECRETARIAT, AND REFERRED TO THE GROUP B STATEMENT, THAT INSUFFICIENT PRIORITY WAS BEING PAID TO KEY AREAS OF IMPORTANCE.

3. ALSO NOTEWORTHY WERE THE STATEMENTS OF UNIDO AND WIP (AS OBSERVERS) SUGGESTING NOT TOO SUBTLY THAT, IN THE AREA OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, UNCTAD WAS LESS THAN FORTHCOMING IN APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS. THE WIPO STATEMENT FIT WELL WITH THE GROUP B APPROACH THAT WIPO WAS THE LEAD AGENCY IN CERTAIN ASPECTS OF TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, NOTABLY THE REVISION OF THE PARIS CONVENTION.

4. THE GROUP B SUMMARY STATEMENT INCLUDED (A) SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR BETTER FORMAT OF FUTURE PROGRAM BUDGETS CONTAINING MORE PERTINENT DATA, ALONG WITH RELIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECTION OF THE DEPUTY SYG'S STATEMENT THAT ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF THE WORK PROGRAM WAS NOT NECESSARY AND COULD NOT BE PROVIDED WITHOUT DOING INJURY TO THE PROGRAMS THEMSELVES, (B) A CHALLENGE TO THE OBVIOUS SUPPORT THROUGH ASSESSED FUNDS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS, NOTING UNDP'S ROLE AND REQUESTING ACABQ AND CPC REVIEW, (C) A REQUEST FOR CPC EVALUATION OF APPARENT DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS IN THE AREAS OF MANUFACTURES, AND TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, FOLLOWED BY COMMITTEE REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAMS WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE PERTINENCY OF GRANDFATHER PROGRAMS, (D) A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE WORKING PARTY MEET AT LEAST ANNUALLY, AS WELL AS MEETING IN ADVANCE OF ANY BOARD MEETINGS LIKELY TO DEAL WITH ITEMS OF MAJOR BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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